

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

THE COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS AND TRADEMARKS

Alexandria VA 22313-140

In re the application of: Joseph Ferris  
For: GROUND-FOLLOWING LAWN MOWER CUTTER DECK SUSPENSION  
SYSTEM  
Filed: March 29, 2004  
Application No.: 10/811,770  
Art Unit: 3671  
Attorney Docket No.: FRJ-2CIP

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

List of Sections Forming Part of This Information Disclosure Statement

The following sections are being submitted for this information Disclosure Statement

1. ☒ Preliminary Statements
2. ☒ FORM PTO - 1449 (Modified)
3. ☐ Statement As To Information Material To Examination Not Found in Patents or Publications
4. ☐ Identification of Prior Application In Which Listed Information Was Already Cited and For Which No Copies Are Submitted Or Need Be Submitted.
5. ☐ Cumulative patents or Publications
6. ☒ Copies of Listed Information Items Accompanying This Statement
7. ☐ Concise Explanation of Non-English Language Listed Information Items.
8. ☐ Translation(s) of Non-English Language Documents
9. ☐ Certification under MPEP 609(e)
10. ☒ Identification of Person(s) Making This Information Disclosure Statement

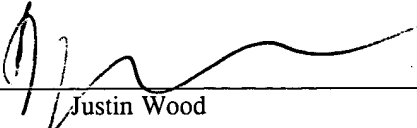
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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

[X] Certified Mail No: 7003 0860 0005 0313 7358

Date: July 28, 2004

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service, return receipt requested in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop DD, Commissioner of Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on this date.

  
Justin Wood

## **Section 1. Preliminary statements**

Applicant submits herewith patents, publications or other information of which he is aware, which he believes may be material to the examination of this application and in respect of which there may be a duty to disclose in accordance with 37 CFR 1.56.

The filing of this information disclosure statement shall not be construed as a representation that a search has been made (37 CFR 1.56(g)), an admission that the information cited is, or is considered to be, material to patentability or that no other material information exists.

The filing of this information disclosure statement shall not be construed as an admission against interest in any manner. Notice of January 9, 1992, 1135 O.G. 13-25, at 25.

## **Section 2. Form PTO - 1449 (Modified) (SEE ATTACHMENT)**

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference is considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw a line through citation if not in conformance or not considered. Include a copy of this form with the next communication to applicant.

## **Section 3. Statement As To Information Material For Examination Not Found in Patents or Publications (Information not listed in PTO 1449)**

## **Section 4. Identification of Prior Application in Which Listed Information Was Already Cited and For Which No Copies Are Submitted Or Need Be Submitted**

## **Section 5. Cumulative Patents or Publications**

☐ Item(s)

are cumulative of the following patents or publication listed on Form PTO 1449 (modified):

In accordance with 37 CFR 1.98(c) a copy of \_\_\_\_\_ is being submitted with this information disclosure statement.

## **Section 6. Copies of Listed Information Items Accompanying This Statement**

Legible copies of all items listed accompany this information statement.

☐ Exception(s) to above:

☐ Items in prior application from which an earlier filing date is claimed for this application as identified in Section 4.

☐ Cumulative patents or publications identified in Section 5.

## **Section 7. Concise Explanation of Non-English Language Listed Information Items**

## **Section 8. Translation(s) of Non-English Language Documents**

☐ Submitted herewith is an English translation of the following foreign language patents, publications or information or of those portions of those patents, publications or information considered to be material:

☐ No English language translations of the foreign language patents, publications or information or parts thereof are readily available, except for those listed above.

☐ The following foreign language documents submitted are believed to be the equivalent or

substantial equivalent of the English language documents identified below, which are also submitted herewith.

### Section 9. Certification under Rule 1.97

☐ The undersigned hereby certifies that:

a. This Statement is being filed after the latest of (1) three months after the filing date of a national application; (2) three months after the date of entry of the national stage as set forth in w 1.491 in an international application; (3) the mailing date of a first Office action on the merits.

b. The fee set forth in §1.17(p)

☐ Is being paid with this Information Disclosure Statement

☐ Is not due because:

☐ (1) Each item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of the statement, or

☐ (2) No item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application or, to the knowledge of the person signing the certification after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in 37 CFR 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of the statement.

### Section 10. IDENTIFICATION OF PERSON(S) MAKING THIS INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

The person making this statement is

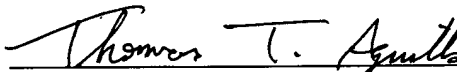
(a) ☐ the inventor(s) who signs below

(b) ☒ the attorney who signs below on the basis of:

☐ the information supplied by the inventor(s)

☐ an individual associated with the filing and prosecution of this application (37 CFR 1.56(c)).

☒ the information in the attorney's file



Thomas T. Aquilla, Registration No. 45,612

BROWN & MICHAELS, PC

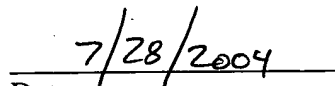
400 M&T Bank Building, 118 N. Tioga Street

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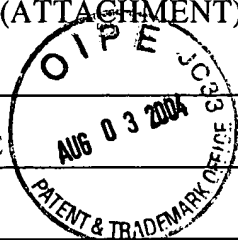
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Customer number: 020808

  
Date: 7/28/2004

## Section 2. Form PTO - 1449 (Modified) (ATTACHMENT)



FORM PTO-1449 U.S. DEPT. OF COMMERCE (Modified) PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE	ATTY DOCKET NO. FRJ-2CIP	SERIAL NO. 10/811,770
	APPLICANT Joseph Ferris	
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT	FILING DATE March 29, 2004	GROUP 3671

## U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Exam Initial		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	PATENTEE	CLASS	SUB	FILING DATE IF APPROPR
	AA	3,672,696	06/27/72	Akgulian et al	280	15	
	AB	3,696,594	10/10/72	Freimuth et al.	56	15.2	
	AC	3,785,672	01/15/74	Shakespear, H.	280	112A	
	AD	3,940,161	02/24/76	Allison, W.	280	96.2	
	AE	4,325,211	04/20/82	Witt et al	56	15.8	
	AF	5,355,665	10/18/94	Peter, T.	56	15.8	
	AG	5,367,864	11/29/94	Ogasawara et al.	56	15.8	
	AH	5,381,647	01/17/95	Eberle, R.	56	15.8	
	AI	5,820,147	10/13/98	Rhweder et al	280	93.51	
	AJ	5,946,893	09/07/99	Gordon, T.	56	15.8	
	AK	5,956,932	09/28/99	Schmidt, M.	56	15.6	
	AL	6,170,242	01/09/01	Gordon, T.	56	15.8	

## FOREIGN PATENT OR PUBLISHED FOREIGN PATENT APPLICATION

Exam Initial		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUB	TRANSLATION YES   NO

## OTHER PRIOR ART

Exam Initial		Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc
		Ferris Industries, "NewZ's"; sales brochure that includes the Latest in Suspension Technology, 6 pages.
EXAMINER		DATE CONSIDERED